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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Art Unit : 1645  
Examiner : Iesha P. Fields  
Serial No. : 09/755,456  
Filed : January 5, 2001  
Inventors : Frédéric Delbac  
              Christian Vivares  
              Antoine Danchin  
Title : MICROSPORIDIAN POLAR  
          TUBE PROTEINS, NUCLEIC  
          ACIDS CODING FOR THESE  
          PROTEINS AND THEIR  
          APPLICATIONS

22469

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 1566-00

Confirmation No.: 5009

Dated: June 25, 2002

## **RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is submitted in response to the Official Action dated January 29, 2002.

We acknowledge the restriction of the Application into the seven groups set forth on page 2 of the Official Action. However, such election is made with traverse. It is clear that a number of the groups are linked to one another by virtue of dependency of certain claims from other claims within different groups. An example is Group II including Claim 13. This claim is related to Claim 1, which is in Group I, by virtue of its dependency thereon. Also, Claim 13 is classified in the same Class 530. Others of the claims are similarly linked and we accordingly respectfully request that the number of groups be reduced accordingly.

In any event, we hereby elect Claims 1 - 12 from Group I for immediate prosecution. We of course reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the remaining claims. We also acknowledge the restriction of Groups I - VII with respect to election of a single nucleotide sequence or

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single protein sequence for examination. This requirement is also strenuously traversed. However, we hereby elect Sequence No. 1 for immediate prosecution.

We respectfully request a substantive action on the merits and prompt allowance of the elected claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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